

NOMINATION FOR AWARD

AWARD Air Force Public Affairs Director's Excellence Award		CATEGORY (If Applicable) Environmental Planning	AWARD PERIOD 1 Jan - 31 Dec 2002
RANK/NAME OF NOMINEE (First, Middle Initial, Last) OO-ALC/PA		SSN (Enter Last 4 Only)	MAJCOM, FOA, OR DRU AFMC
DAFSC/DUTY TITLE		NOMINEE'S TELEPHONE (DSN & Commercial) DSN 777-5201 /Commercial (801) 777-5201	
UNIT/OFFICE SYMBOL/STREET ADDRESS/BASE/STATE/ZIP CODE OO-ALC/PA/7891 Georgia Street, Suite 1, Hill AFB UT 84056-5824			
RANK/NAME OF UNIT COMMANDER (First, Middle Initial, Last)/COMMANDER'S TELEPHONE (DSN & Commercial) Major General Scott C. Bergren, DSN 777-5111/Commercial (801) 777-5111			
SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS (Use single-spaced, bullet format) <p>Overall Effectiveness of Program: Best of the Best! Despite facing an immense array of environmental challenges, both on and off base, Hill AFB recently garnered the General Thomas D. White award for Environmental Restoration at both Air Force Materiel Command and at Air Force level competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hill's Environmental Restoration Division used flexible contracts, innovative technologies, close teaming with local city officials and the community to accelerate complex cleanup procedures - In record time, the base successfully defined the nature and extent of a dissolved trichloroethane (TCE) plume located in a densely populated neighborhood near the base. The entire process took 2.5 years, shaving off more than seven years from the time it would have ordinarily taken and saving over 500K in the process - The Restoration's and PA's environmental newsletter, the EnviroNews is a first-class publication produced quarterly. The publication is mailed to more than 2,300 residents and interested parties - The environmental Public Affairs team responded to more than 150 media queries, a new record number, sent out more than 25 news releases and media advisories informing local media outlets about pertinent issues of major interest to the many communities surrounding Hill AFB <p>Research and Planning: Taxpayers savings! The success of an extraction system in place for several years to remediate TCE contamination in a nearby community has reduced the average monthly TCE concentration to below 2.2 parts per billion (ppb), less than half the drinking water standard of 5 ppb - In response to this overwhelming success, the base currently plans to shut down the off-base clean-up site, Operable Unit 6, saving about \$50K in annual operation and maintenance costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restoration personnel at Hill also planned and implemented a unique approach to contain contaminated groundwater at another site that proved very promising. By using Phytoremediation, which involves the use of plants and trees for remediation, Hill's environmental staff eliminated a regulatory requirement for a \$6.8 million groundwater treatment system. Many local residents and civic leaders were thrilled that the base would not have to disrupt their community by installing an additional treatment system; four InfoFairs were planned for four cities with contamination problems <p>Program Execution and Evaluation: Tireless communicators! Restoration and environmental PA personnel aggressively worked with the local media and community members to keep them abreast of various clean-up actions. An unprecedented 20 updates were given to seven mayors and city councils - The Restoration division orchestrated four InfoFairs specifically designed to inform city residents about environmental issues managed by Hill AFB. A record attendance of more than 100 city residents turned out to ask questions and consult with base medical and environmental officials. InfoFairs reps included: Air Force, county health department, EPA, and Utah Dept. Env. Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hill's Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) helped maintain the highest levels of confidence among community members by taking on key roles as community liaisons and keeping citizens informed about complex cleanup issues. RAB members responded to the media and other concerned people. They helped organize special work groups formed to address individual concerns like risk, property values, cleanup sites; tours were provided to RAB members and citizens of the bases operable units on and off base. Results: Residents get first-hand knowledge of current restoration projects/concerns; media stories covering InfoFairs has been balanced, favorable/supportive of Hill's cleanup efforts <p>Innovativeness of Program: Innovation and Excellence--our mantra! The Restoration division involves each community during Earth Week. Elementary and high school students were targeted this year and many participated in numerous presentations and activities; Result: Students understand Hill's environmental contributions; account manager for the Ageiss Environmental contract; Restoration directorate created home filtration units capable of detecting TCE vapors in contaminated homes; education program has reached over 60 homes requesting testing to date; all newsletters, posters, graphic elements are ingeniously designed specically for each separate InfoFairs held</p>			